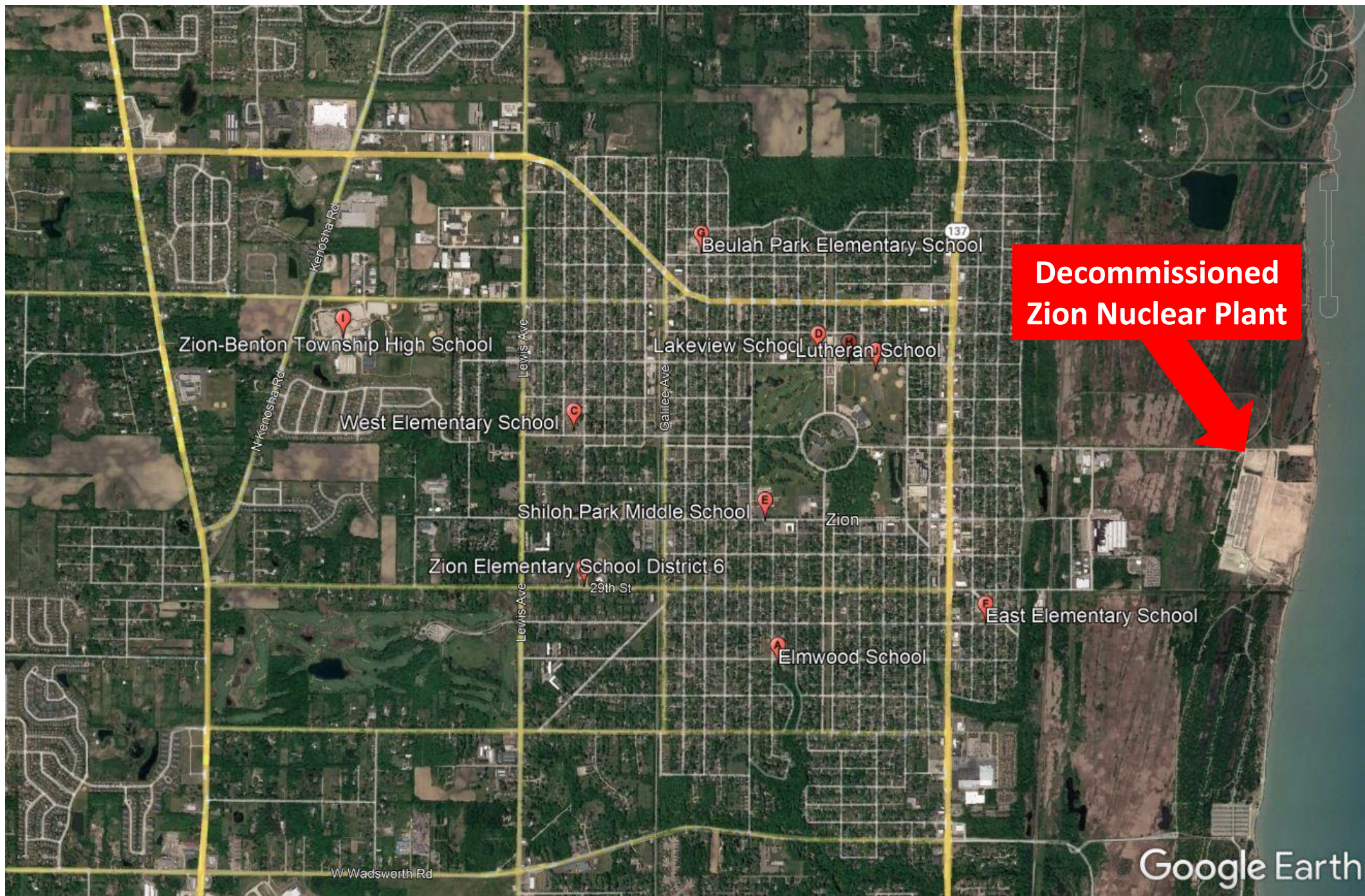


# Schools Near Decommissioned Nuclear Reactors

**Dave Lochbaum**

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**Distances from Zion:**

**East Elementary School – 1 mile**

**Shiloh Park Middle School - 2 miles**

**Elmwood School – 2 miles**

**Beulah Park Elementary School – 2 miles**

**West Elementary School – 2 miles**



A satellite map of a rural landscape. A river flows from the top left towards the center. In the bottom right, there is a small pond and a building labeled 'Rowe Elementary School'. A red arrow points from a text box to a location on the river.

**Decommissioned  
Yankee Rowe  
Nuclear Plant**

Rowe Elementary School

**2 miles away**



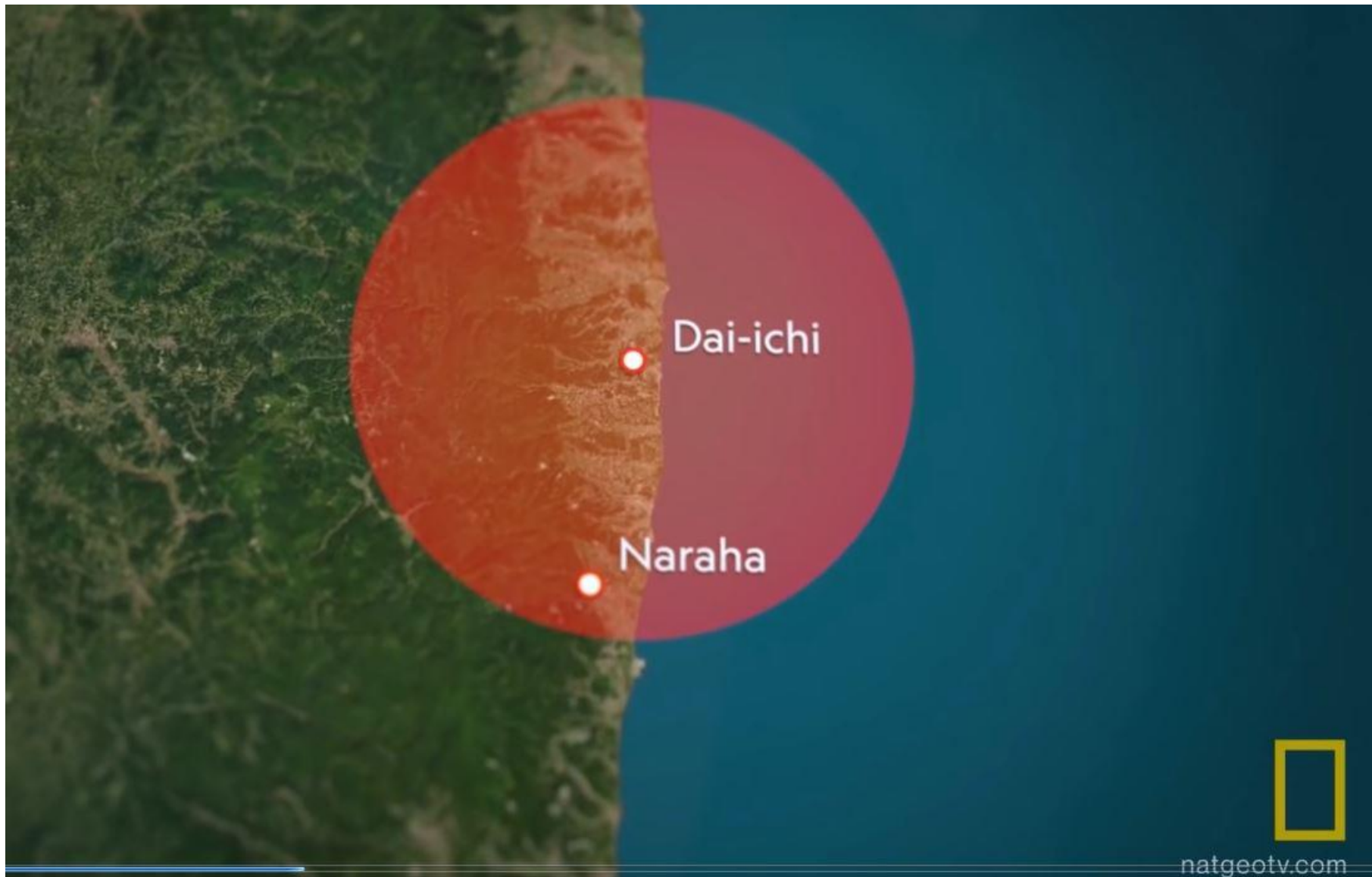


## **Three Mile Island Unit 2 Accident Chronology**

- **March 28, 1979 – Partial meltdown of reactor core**
- **March 30, 1979 – Gov. Thornburgh recommends that pregnant women and pre-school children within 5 miles of plant evacuate; the Governor also recommends the closure of about 23 schools within 5 miles of the plant (ML19224A781)**
- **April 9, 1979 – Gov. Thornburgh rescinded the evacuation recommendation for pregnant women and pre-school children and said that schools that had not already re-opened would re-open (ML19289F974)**

**Searches through TMI files has not come across any mention of radiation monitoring at schools during the 10-year decontamination of TMI-2 and the packaging and shipment of core debris to the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory**





**The school in Naraha was built to replace one contaminated by the 2011 accident at Fukushima.**

Snapshot from 2018 National Geographic documentary, *Return to Fukushima*

# Naraha, Fukushima

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From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

**Naraha** (楡葉町, *Naraha-machi*) is a town located in Fukushima Prefecture, Japan. As of 1 March 2020, the town had an official registered population of 6,784 in 2956 households,<sup>[1]</sup> and a population density of 65 persons per km², although the current actual resident population is significantly smaller. The total area of the town is 103.64 square kilometres (40.02 sq mi).<sup>[2]</sup> From 2011 until 2015, the town was evacuated due to fallout from the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear disaster. While the town wasn't severely contaminated by the fallout, restrictions on residency were held until September 2015 when cleanup efforts concluded, allowing people to return. Naraha is the first of several towns and cities near Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant to have been reopened to residents. Repair and reconstruction efforts have been underway in Naraha since 2016, and numerous landmarks in the town have been rebuilt.

Naraha suffered great devastation as a result of the March 11 earthquake and subsequent tsunami. As a result of the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear disaster, as well as problems experienced with its cooling facility of the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant (see timeline), the town was totally evacuated by order of the town government.<sup>[5]</sup> The entire area of the town fell within the 20 kilometer exclusion zone around the Fukushima Daiichi Power Plant. On August 1, 2012 the government eased the restriction order by allowing residents to visit their homes during daylight hours, but not permitting overnight stays.<sup>[6]</sup> In March 2014, Naraha completed decontamination work in its residential areas, although radiation levels remained high in some areas of the town, and many buildings were still in ruins. By April 2015, residents could stay overnight if they applied for permission, and the evacuation order was lifted completely effective September 4, 2015.<sup>[7][8]</sup> Reconstruction efforts in the town commenced in 2016.

Naraha is listed among several neighbouring towns as a 'special zone for reconstruction and revitalisation'; as repair works are underway, several key milestones were met in the years following the evacuation order being lifted. In April 2018, the town's Elementary and Junior High schools were reopened, while in July, J-Village was fully repaired and opened to the public.<sup>[9]</sup>



**The school's front entrance. Just off the left edge of the picture along the fence line is a radiation monitor.**

Snapshot from 2018 National Geographic documentary, *Return to Fukushima*





**The solar-powered radiation monitor visible to drivers exiting the school's entrance area.**

Snapshot from 2018 National Geographic documentary, *Return to Fukushima*



**The solar-powered radiation monitor provides a continuous read-out, but no trending.**

Snapshot from 2018 National Geographic documentary, *Return to Fukushima*